

ABSTRACT

5 Methods, devices and systems for draining fluid from the eye and/or for
reducing intraocular pressure. A passageway (e.g., an opening, puncture or
incision) is formed in the lamina cribosa or elsewhere to facilitate flow of fluid
from the posterior chamber of the eye to either a) a subdural location within
the optic nerve or b) a location within the subarachnoid space adjacent to the
optic nerve. Fluid from the posterior chamber then drains into the optic
nerve or directly into the subarachnoid space, where it becomes mixed with
10 cerebrospinal fluid. In some cases, a tubular member (e.g., a shunt or stent)
may be implanted in the passageway. A particular shunt device and shunt-
introducer system is provided for such purpose. A vitrectomy or vitreous
liquefaction procedure may be performed to remove some or all of the
vitreous body, thereby facilitating creation of the passageway and/or
15 placement of the tubular member as well as establishing a route for
subsequent drainage of aqueous humor from the anterior chamber, though
the posterior chamber and outwardly though the passageway where it
becomes mixed with cerebrospinal fluid.